Customer No. 28880

Confirmation No. 8942

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		First Named inventor		August 5, 2003			
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Fee Attached		Licensing-related Papers	Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences				
Amendment/Reply		Petition		Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Repty Brief)			
After Final		Petition to Convert to a	Proprietary Information				
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND PRES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.

10/634,713

Confirmation No.:

8942

APPLICANT(S)

JOSEPH ARMAND PICARD

FILED

AUGUST 5, 2003

ART UNIT

1624

EXAMINER

VENKATARAMAN BALASUBRAMANIAN

DOCKET NO.

PC25298A

CUSTOMER NO.

28880

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents

PO BOX 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FAX: 571-273-8300

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to a non-final Office Action mailed January 3, 2006 ("Office Action") and is being mailed or transmitted before the 3-month deadline for reply of April 3, 2006. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account number 23-0455.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 14.